

CARLINVILLE, ILL.
MARKER

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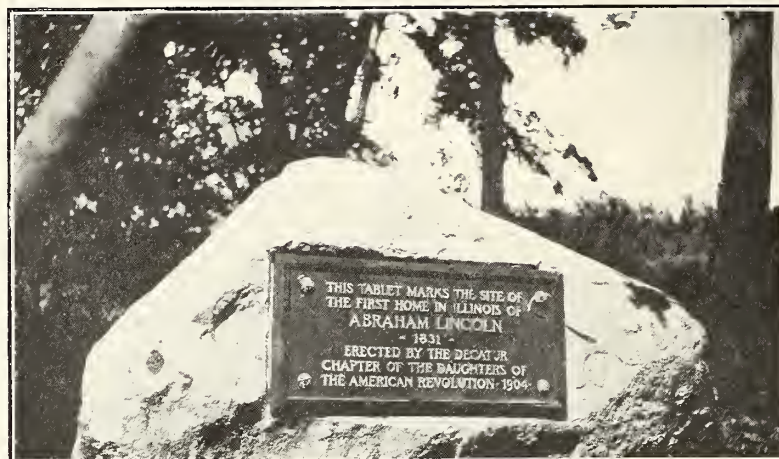
Illinois

Illinois Towns

Carlinville

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

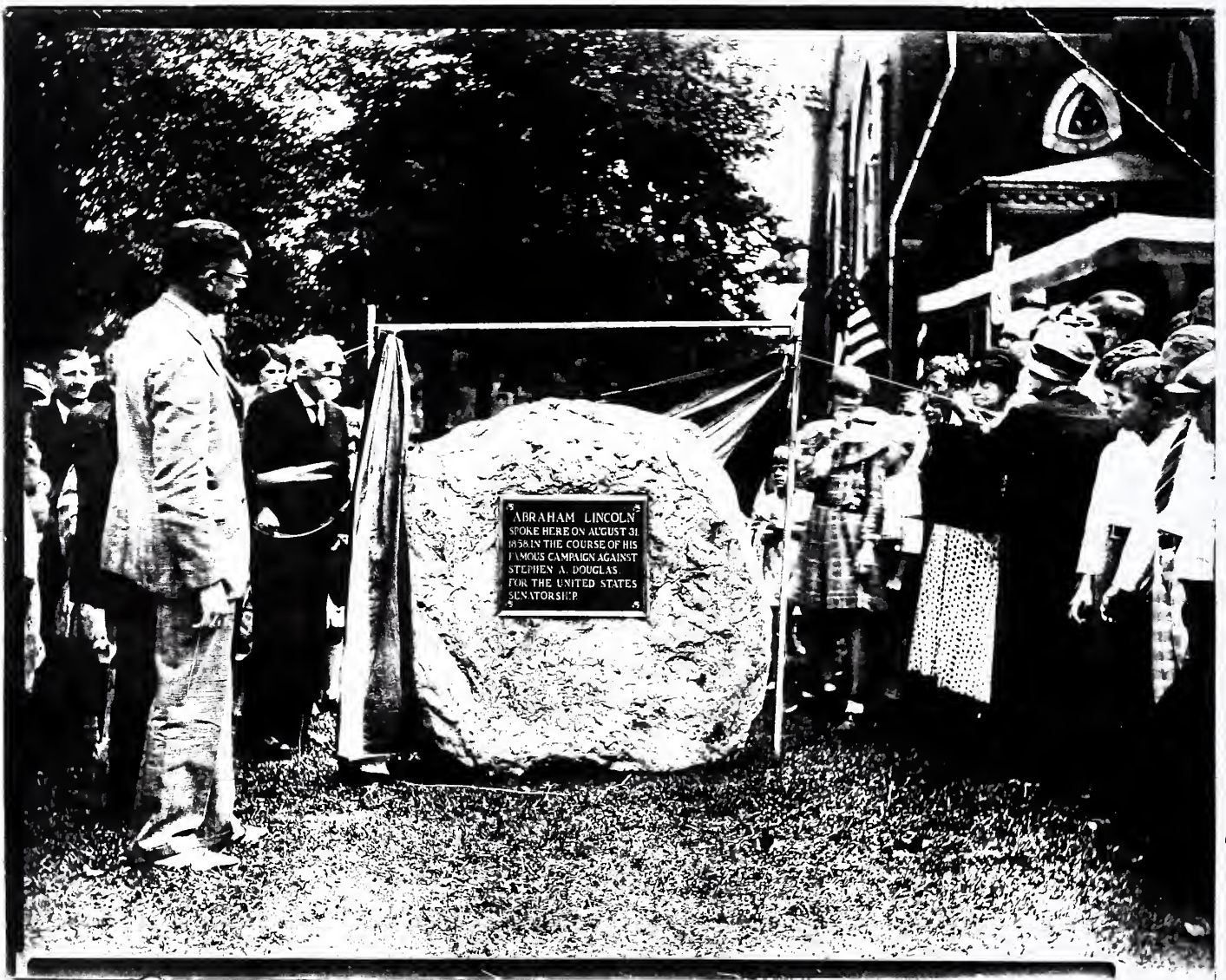
From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection





21 markers placed in Ill where Lincoln
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original in 306



Carlinville, Ill.

Original
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original in post card file

LINCOLN'S VISIT TO CARLINVILLE

Nicholas Schaefer Heard the Speech and Remembers Details.

Joseph Padget, Deceased, Also Made Statement—Movement on Foot to Mark Spot Where Lincoln Stood.

Interest in the life and service of Abraham Lincoln increases with the passing of the years. Historical societies, and biographers are searching far and near to learn something about the great emancipator which has not really been published. Cities in which he spoke, court rooms where he practiced his profession, roads which he traveled are being sought out and marked.

It may not be generally known, but it is a fact that Abraham Lincoln once delivered an address in Carlinville. Effort is being made to ascertain the exact place where that speech was delivered. Until quite recently there were several citizens of Macoupin county who were present and heard Mr. Lincoln, but they have passed on. One died only a few months ago. He was Joseph Padget. Just a short while before his death, he told M. L. Keplinger some of the details of the Lincoln meeting held in Carlinville and gave some of his recollections of it. Mr. Keplinger, realizing the importance of it, summarized it, and reduced it to writing, and it was signed by Mr. Padget, who shortly thereafter passed away.

So far as we know the only person now surviving who was present at the Lincoln meeting is Nicholas Schaefer, a resident of Carlinville. We interviewed him recently concerning his recollections of that meeting. We embodied his statement in the form of an affidavit, which, when submitted to him, he modified in some minor details, and then very cheerfully signed it.

In view of the fact that an effort is being made to get the details of the Carlinville Lincoln meeting, and to get at the real truth as to where the meeting was held, we here reproduce the statement of Mr. Padget, and also the affidavit of Mr. Schaefer. These statements are as follows:

Carlinville, Ill., Feb. 20, 1922.

I, Joseph Padget, aged 85 years, civil war veteran of 7th Illinois infantry, Co. K, resident of Macoupin county since Jan. 3, 1853 state that in the campaign of 1858, between Lincoln and Douglas, Lincoln delivered a speech in Carlinville,

under the shade of large native oak trees that stood exactly where the present M. E. church stands. I was present and heard this speech. There were not many present. There were but few Republicans in Carlinville, and there was a very pronounced partisan feeling against Lincoln and against his position on the slavery question. But from that date the desertions from the Democratic to the Republican party became frequent.

JOSEPH PADGET.

STATE OF ILLINOIS } ss.
Macoupin County }

Nicholas Schaefer, first being duly sworn, deposes and says, as follows: I was born in Monroe Co., Ill., on March 7, 1849, and was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Schaefer; I came with my parents to Carlinville in 1852 or 1853, and settled in a house in that city on the lot where the late Senator Walker's home was subsequently located; there my folks lived for six or seven months, or until my father bought and moved to the farm known as the "Winchester Place," located about three and one-half miles northeast of Carlinville, and now known as the "Barnstable home." I lived on that farm until I was twenty-seven years of age, when I went to operating a farm for myself; later I moved to St. Louis, in 1880, where I found employment for a period of twenty-three years, and then returned to Carlinville where I have since resided; my wife died in September of 1925; we had nine children, all of whom are living. I remember very distinctly one time when we were out on the farm my father said to me, "Abraham Lincoln is going to be in town today, and I want you to go along with me and hear him speak. Later on it may do you some good by hearing him." We went to town in a wagon; the speaking was on a lot where the Carlinville Methodist church now stands, and there was a house near by, and I think it was the same house that stands there now, and which is known as the "Matthews Home," though it may not be the same building; the speaking was in the morning, at about 10 o'clock, and I think probably in the month of September; I am not sure about the year, but it was in 1858 or 1859, or at any rate, before Mr. Lincoln was elected President; there was a pretty good crowd to hear him, and there were no seats provided for the audience; they all stood around the platform, which consisted of a number of logs which

were rolled together underneath a big oak tree, which stood west of the house, above described, and upon which rough boards were laid, or nailed. I stood very near Mr. Lincoln while he spoke; he looked just like his pictures; he was very tall, and he wore a long coat and a big plug hat; and in that day we called that kind of a hat a "stove pipe;" during the course of his speech, Mr. Lincoln said to me: "Sonny, won't you get me a drink of water?" I went to the well near the house, got a tin cup, and brought him some water. Mr. Lincoln stopped his speech, drank the water and said: "Thank you, my son, some day you may get to be President." When the speaking was over, nearly everybody went up and shook hands with the speaker; I do not remember very much what he said, and I do know that he talked about the union, and on the way home my father said he thought Mr. Lincoln was right. Mr. Lincoln faced the north as he spoke, and I feel quite sure the platform upon which he stood was built under the tree, the stump of which may yet be seen west of the house above mentioned.

NICHOLAS SCHAEFER, s.

Subscribed and sworn to by Nicholas Schaefer before me a notary public of Macoupin county, Ill., this day of July, A. D. 1926.

LENORA ROBINSON, r.
Notary Public

We would be glad, indeed, to respond with any one who can furnish us with any information which will enable us to definitely locate at time and place of Mr. Lincoln's address in Carlinville.

n

LINCOLN MARKER TO BE PLACED

**Huge Boulder to Mark Spot
Where Abraham Lincoln De-
livered Address in Methodist
Church Yard in Carlinville.**

The different committees are working hard to make the Macoupin County Centennial celebration, that will be held in Carlinville on August 6, 7, and 8th, a grand success.

A new feature of the celebration, and one worth while will be the unveiling of a huge marker, suitably inscribed, which will for all time, mark the spot where Abraham Lincoln spoke in Carlinville.

The huge marker weighing many tons, is in the form of a bolder, which was found when the hard road was constructed between this city and Bunker Hill and was dug up near Wilsonville. This great bowlder has been taken to Carlinville and placed in the yard of the Methodist church and will mark the spot where Abraham Lincoln spoke on a visit to that city. A bronze tablet will be placed on this marker and the unveiling will be accompanied by appropriate ceremonies.

The exercises will be held Tuesday afternoon, August 6th.

The centennial celebration to be held in Carlinville is a county wide affair, and the citizens all over the county should take a deep interest in making it a success. The Committees in Carlinville should receive the thanks of the entire county for the good work they are doing in reference to the Centennial Celebration and every citizen of the county should give every assistance possible to the end that the 100 birthday of the county can be properly celebrated.

Program of Exercises.

1:15—Band concert.

2:00—Prayer.

Address—"Lincoln's speech, in Carlinville in 1858, by Paul M. Angle, Springfield, Secretary the Abraham Lincoln Association.

Music by band.

Unveiling Tablet.

Music by Band.

Oration—"Abraham Lincoln" by Thomas Williamson, of Edwardsville.

Vocal Music.

Dismissal.

On August 31st, 1858, Abraham Lincoln made a speech in the county seat of Macoupin county. He was not very well known at that time, and for the reason also, perhaps, that the principles he espoused were not very popular in this section and he was greeted only by a small audience. It is said to be the fact that less than a hundred people assembled to hear the man who two years later, was elected President of the United States.

A platform was built for him on the east side of the vacant lot where the Carlinville Methodist church now stands. From those who were present on that occasion, and from the files of the newspapers, the details and facts of that meeting have been learned. On that occasion Mr. Lincoln gave expression to principles of which he became the outstanding champion, and upon which he was elected President.

GILLESPIE ILL NEWS (WRI)
WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1929.

THOSE WHO HEARD LINCOLN SPEAK.

Since the publication last week of The Democrat of the names of those living who heard Lincoln speak in Carlinville, August 31, 1858, we have heard of two others who heard him. One of them is Mrs. M. J. Cohlepp, of East First South street, Carlinville, and the other is John C. Boyd of Lincoln, Neb.

At the time Lincoln came to Carlinville in 1858, Mrs. Cohlepp was aged 9 years and resided with her parents on South broad street on the west side of the street in the block between the corner of the square and First South street. As the speaking took place on Morton's grove just southeast of her home, Mrs. Cohlepp did not have to walk far to hear the great man. She does not recall much of the event except that he was tall and "lanky." Mrs. Cohlepp has been a resident of Carlinville for about 75 years and will be 80 years of age next September. Her husband, the late M. J. Cohlepp, was a veteran of the civil war.

Mr. Boyd is 81 years of age and is a brother of Mrs. William Hays, of this city. He was a resident of Carlinville in 1873 and in that year and also in 1877 was night policeman. He was present at the speaking and writes Mrs. Hays that he remembers several incidents connected with Lincoln's visit to Carlinville.

Since the above was placed in type

we have heard of two persons in Carlinville who heard Lincoln in August of 1858. They are Mrs. Amanda Adams, who is 86 years of age, and was sixteen years of age at the time Lincoln spoke in this city. The other is Mrs. Mary Works, aged 79.

Another person who heard Lincoln make his now famous speech was Mrs. Millie Seaman Rodgers, who resides in the Third Ward. At the time she heard Lincoln, her mother, Mrs. Nancy McWain, was conducting a hotel on the corner of what is now First South street, just south of the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gus Heinz. Mrs. Rodgers is 85 years of age. As a little girl she ran down one block to where Lincoln was speaking and stayed for a while, returning to help her mother at the hotel.

About two years ago she fell and injured her hip and has since been confined to her bed. Despite this misfortune, however, she is cheerful and takes great interest in the doings of today.

Who, Now Living, Heard Lincoln's Speech in Carlinville, on August 31, 1858?

So far as this paper knows, there are only four persons now living, who heard Lincoln speak in Carlinville, August 31, 1858. Those four persons are the following: Peter Lorenz, Nicholas Schaefer, Thomas Richardson, all of Carlinville, and Fred Rogge, of the Soldiers' Home in Tennessee. Possibly there are others. Will our readers interest themselves in this matter, and if any one knows of any other person living in this county or elsewhere, who heard that famous speech, we will count it a great favor if this or any other newspaper in Macoupin county is promptly advised of that fact. Our purpose is to secure this information and advise the Centennial Executive committee to the end that special effort may be made to get such survivors to participate in the unveiling of the Lincoln tablet in Carlinville, on August 6th.

A LINCOLN STAMP.

One of the most remarkable things connected with the unveiling of the Lincoln tablet was the ages of those who heard Lincoln in 1858, and who were on the platform as guests of honor. The total was 493 years. And one of those good women paid Mr. Williamson, the chief speaker, a great compliment when she said, "It was the finest address ever delivered in Carlinville." And she has heard a lot of them during her 75 years' residence here.

Mrs. J. W. Scott was in The Democrat office Tuesday morning and showed us a Lincoln stamp. It was issued by the government in 1909 in commemoration of the 100th birthday of Abraham Lincoln.

The stamp bears the portrait of Lincoln and just beneath the picture of the great emancipator are the figures "1809-1909." It has been twenty years since the stamp was issued and they are becoming rare.

Mrs. Scott also has an old lace jacket over 100 years old and an apron over 100 years old.

Mrs. Scott was before her marriage Miss Winter, daughter of the late Henry Winter, who was one of the early settlers in Carlinville. He was a bricklayer and stonemason by trade.

PLANS COMPLETED FOR BIG CELEBRATION

The Macoupin County Centennial Executive Committee, with Theodore J. Surman as chairman, and all the sub-committees appointed thereunder, are very busily engaged in perfecting the well-made plans for what promises to be the biggest celebration ever held in Macoupin county. It will open Tuesday, August 6th, and continue for three days, concluding on the night of August the 8th. The pageant each night promises to eclipse anything of the kind ever seen in Macoupin county. It is under the direction of the John B. Rogers Company, which has representatives here who are drilling the performers in the various towns of the county. Later in this week a grand rehearsal will be held at the fair grounds in Carlinville. Tuesday, the opening day, will be a big one. At two o'clock that afternoon, a tablet marking the place where Abraham Lincoln spoke in Carlinville in 1858, will be unveiled in the presence of a huge crowd. The exercises promise to be very interesting. At four o'clock that afternoon the Queen of the Pageant will be formally crowned. She is being elected by ballot. That night will be the opening of the pageant.

The splendid cooperation of the people of the whole county, and the cordial support given by the newspapers, make it certain that the whole affair during the three days, will be a great success. Naturally, an undertaking of that kind calls for the expenditure of a considerable sum of money. Societies and civic organizations of various kinds have underwritten the whole undertaking. They have not done this with promises but with actual cash. The whole proposition is being conducted by business men and business women on a business basis. If what has been subscribed and paid into the treasury is more than necessary to meet the expenses, the balance will be turned back pro rata to the guarantors. If there should be profits from the pageant, and those profits should equal the amount paid by the guarantors, they then will be returned all the money that they paid in. If there should be profits beyond that amount, then whatever balance there is will be donated to charity. Nobody in Carlinville or Macoupin county among the guarantors, will make a single cent out of this proposition. Every guarantor stands to lose in case of rain and storm, a major part of what he has paid in. Favorable weather and big crowds will mean that they will get a part of it back.

We want again to emphasize the fact that there is no profit for those who are giving their time and their efforts to the promotion of this big county undertaking.

THE RECORD

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY
\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

THOS. H. DAYBALL
Editor and Proprietor

Entered as second-class matter, September, 1926, at the post office in Gillespie, Illinois, under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1929.

LINCOLN MEMORIAL TABLET.

Plans are completed for the unveiling of a Lincoln Memorial Tablet in Carlinville. On August the thirty-first, eighteen hundred and fifty-eight Abraham Lincoln made a speech in the county seat of Macoupin county. He was not very well known at that time, and for the reason also, perhaps, that the principles he espoused were not very popular in this section, he was greeted only by a very small audience. It is said to be the fact that less than a hundred people assembled to hear the man who, two years later, was elected President of the United States.

A platform was built for him on the east side of a vacant lot, where the Carlinville Methodist church now stands. From those who were present on that occasion, and from the files of the newspapers, the details and facts of that meeting have been learned. On that occasion Mr. Lincoln gave expression to principles of which he became the outstanding champion, and upon which he was elected President.

It is eminently right and proper that the spot where such a man appeared and spoke such prophetic words, should be suitably marked in an enduring way.

The Macoupin County Centennial Executive Committee, when they set about the task of presenting a pageant in celebration of the hundredth anniversary of Macoupin county and Carlinville, should, at the same time, as a part of the great history-making event, unveil and dedicate a suitable marker at the place where Mr. Lincoln spoke. Accordingly, the Executive Committee, through its officers and general committee, appointed a special committee and directed the members to arrange for a tablet and a celebration. That committee, together with a number of sub-committees, are all busily at work. An appropriate bronze tablet, sixteen by twenty inches in size, has been ordered and will be delivered to H. H. Lattner, of the Carlinville Monument Works, by August the first. A huge boulder weighing several tons, which was excavated from the hill-side in the con-

struction of the Bunker Hill hard road, has been transported to Carlinville and deposited near the place where it will permanently rest. A concrete foundation is being built, upon which the stone will be placed. On the north of this huge stone will be attached the tablet. The whole will be finished and ready for unveiling on the sixth day of August.

On that day, at two o'clock in the afternoon, appropriate exercises will be held around and in close proximity to the stone, the unveiling of which will be the climax of the occasion. There will be music by a band, vocal music, and an address by Paul M. Angle, the secretary of the Abraham Lincoln Association, and this will be followed by the oration of the day, to be delivered by the Honorable Thomas Williamson, formerly of Macoupin county, but now of Edwardsville. Mr. Angle is a profound student of Abraham Lincoln, and what he will have to say on that occasion will be historical and of very great value, in as much as it will tell the exact history of Mr. Lincoln's appearance in Carlinville in eighteen hundred and fifty-eight, and the facts surrounding it. It will be the utterance of one able to write the history of the Great Emancipator, because of his long and intimate study of that man's life and career.

Mr. Williamson is regarded as one of the most eloquent speakers in the state, and coming back to his old county where he spent his boyhood days and entered upon his professional career, we can all look forward with pleasant anticipation to one of the greatest efforts of his life.

The celebration on August sixth, in Carlinville, is in commemoration of the only public speech Abraham Lincoln ever made in Macoupin county. He happened to select the county seat as the place where he would speak: he might have designated any other equally large cities in the county. So, quite appropriately, it becomes a county affair. Every one in the county is invited to attend. Macoupin county, in this case, is only doing what has been done already by the people in nearly every city where Abraham Lincoln made a political speech in Illinois. Monuments have been erected and tablets have been inscribed. Macoupin county is joining them in this movement to permanently mark the place where the great Lincoln once spoke.

To the exercises marking the dedication of the tablet, the committees having this affair in hand, through the press of the county, and by personal and written appeal, extend a cordial invitation to every one to attend.

KNOW YE, EVERYBODY!

that you are invited to attend the

100th Birthday Anniversary

of Macoupin County at

Carlinville, August 6, 7, 8

Gorgeous Historical Pageant

each evening. 400 young people of Macoupin county in the cast. Produced under direction of John B. Rogers Co.

Unveiling of Lincoln Memorial Tablet

at 2 P.M. Tuesday. Oration by
Hon. Thomas Williamson, of Edwardsville.

Coronation of Miss Macoupin, Queen of Pageant

at 4 P. M. Tuesday—North entrance of Court House.

Gigantic Parade of Progress, 10 A. M. Wed.

Floats, Bands, Organizations, Queen and Attendants

Thursday, Home-Coming Day, Old-Timers' Day

All day entertainment, Music. Last Evening of Pageant.

Carlinville Extends a Hearty Welcome to All. We Expect You!

Macoupin County Centennial Executive Committee

What the Speakers Said at the Unveiling of the Lincoln Tablet in Carlinville on August Sixth.

On account of the shortness of time, we were unable to give our readers in *The Democrat* of last week, an adequate idea of the two very splendid addresses delivered on the occasion of the unveiling of the Lincoln tablet. We are pleased indeed to be able in this issue to print a synopsis of what Mr. Paul M. Angle said of the significance of the appearance of Abraham Lincoln in Carlinville in 1858, and of the far-reaching effect of the address he delivered on that occasion. Mr. Angle said in part:

When the year 1858 opened Abraham Lincoln was an able, honest small-town lawyer. He was also a politician of some repute, having gained prominence by his attacks upon the policy of Stephen A. Douglas in 1854. Though this prominence had made him a contender for the senatorship in 1855, and for the Republican nomination for vice-president the following year, he still occupied a minor position in comparison with Stephen A. Douglas. Douglas was easily the most prominent member of the U. S. senate. Moreover, he was the idol of a formidable section of the Democratic party, and most men expected to see him that party's candidate for the presidency in 1860.

Yet there was a weak spot in Douglas' position. He must stand for re-

election in 1858, and Abraham Lincoln stood in his way. After several preliminary conflicts, an arrangement was made by the two candidates for a series of joint debates, one to be held in each congressional district in the state. These debates, on which the attention of the entire nation focused, have obscured the fact that so far as time was concerned—and perhaps importance too—there was a more vital side of the campaign. Lincoln and Douglas spoke only seven times in joint debate, but for more than two and a half months each addressed audiences almost daily.

Thus it was that Lincoln came to Carlinville on August 31, 1858. Two weeks before, on the 12th, he had opened his campaign at Beardstown, and since then he had spoken almost daily to audiences of his own, and had met Douglas at Ottawa and at Freeport. All of his addresses had been either in the northern or north-central part of the state, where Douglas had taunted him with predictions of what would happen when he started to preach "Black Republicanism" farther south.

Lincoln arrived in Carlinville on the morning of Tuesday, August 31, "on the down train." He was quietly escorted to the American House. Reading between the lines of the contemporary report in your own Carlinville Democrat one can readily guess the reason—there was not enough enthusiasm for Lincoln and the policies he

was advocating to make a demonstration possible. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon he spoke to a gathering which *The Democrat* optimistically estimated at 1,000, but which probably totaled only a fraction of that number.

One can readily see from what Lincoln said on that occasion, the effect of Douglas, taunts. Lincoln limited his remarks to an explanation of his now famous statement that a house divided against itself cannot stand, to a demonstration of his own fidelity to the Whig party, and to a disavowal of his belief in the amalgamation of the white and black races. Macoupin county was a conservative stronghold, with many ties holding it to the south. Good politician that he was, Lincoln, without in any sense surrendering his principles, was wisely emphasizing those he knew to be most acceptable in the locality. *The Democrat* called it "an honest, logical and telling speech," and so it was, and a diplomatic one as well.

The sequel is well known. Two months longer Lincoln and Douglas traveled over Illinois, speaking almost daily. On the second of November their audience cast their verdict. Lincoln received the greater number of votes, but, because of a somewhat antiquated apportionment law, it was evident that Douglas would be elected when the legislature convened.

Yet, in a larger sense, Lincoln was the victor. His name was known throughout the nation, and in the west he was easily the foremost man of his party. When, two years later, the political situation dictated the election of a westerner as the Republican nominee, Lincoln was the natural choice. It would be too much to say that the contest with Douglas made Lincoln president, but it is certainly true that without it he could not have attained that office. Car-

linville and Macoupin county may take a just pride in having had a part in that contest.

We are happy also to reproduce herewith the oration delivered by Hon. Thomas Williamson, of Edwardsville, for many years a resident of Macoupin county. His subject was: "This Nation Shall not Perish." Mr. Williamson said:

The people of Macoupin county, including all who have at some time in life been residents of the county, will long treasure the three days' event, which the program of the afternoon initiates. Those who have planned and given of their time, talent and substance to make this event one to be long remembered in the history of Macoupin county, are to be congratulated and complimented not only for their contribution, but for their thoughtfulness in providing opportunity for the people to join in a celebration planned and enacted to refresh memories not only of those who have the pleasure of being present, but of those who once were residents of the county, but now in distant places, whose thoughts in these three days will turn to the cherished memories of their associations in Macoupin county.

To me has been assigned the appreciated honor of bringing to you a brief word, in some measure a tribute to the memory of the most honored and distinguished man in Illinois—Abraham Lincoln. Those who are interested in the lives of men, whose names have shown brilliant on the pages of history, are familiar with the life of Lincoln and his contribution not only to Illinois and the nation, but to the principles of organized government in which the people are the ruling power and control its destiny. In re-

cent years, the life of no human being has perhaps been given more attention, until those, who care to know, have within their own knowledge a conception of the life of Lincoln not within my power to express or describe.

America, young as a nation, cannot go back across remote centuries to pay tribute to the memory of its heroic dead as may be done in the older nations. As centuries pass, the names of but few men live in memory. The American people are yet too close to the life of this man to appreciate fully his contribution to the vital principles upon which our nation's endurance depends. Each passing year add to the glory of the name. Each passing year to the knowledge and world admiration of this wonderful character. It is indeed remarkable that vigilant search from year to year reveals incidents in his life that adds to its beauty and emphasizes the fact that in the age in which he lived, no man more truly represented or presented the spirit that is essential and continues to be essential for the survival of our government. The thought has been expressed, that in the passing of the ages, in the rise and fall of government among men, the plan of the Great Architect of the universe was being executed, when, through the human agency of our forefathers, a new form of government was established on American soil. How prophetic it must seem and how prophetic it must continue to be that after the great struggle between the "Blue" and the "Gray," there should be pronounced on the battle-torn field of Gettysburg, in the presence of the white markers of thousands of the unknown heroic dead, the thrilling phrase that shall live as long as men unite to maintain the principles of freedom—"Government of the People, for the People and by the People shall not Perish from the Earth." To my mind, this wonderful thought might be inscribed today as the guide, as the inspiration, as the purpose of the American people. "Shall this government perish?" is today a question full of vitality, and one answer may be—it will not perish if we keep close to the life of Lincoln and profit by his example.

From humble birth to the tragedy of a martyr's death, no life since that of the Carpenter of Bethlehem has been more productive of uplifting thoughts nor more inspiring to human hope and of good will among men. Born in the state of Kentucky when the principles of this new government were not yet firmly established, he knew and his family knew the pangs of poverty; where hardships that made for the beginning of sturdy manhood were on every hand; where there was little opportunity. Then there came that thought so typical in American life—opportunity may be found further on. We find the young Lincoln as the years passed by meeting with and overcoming adversity. The greatest preparation for his future was his willingness to work; his determination to overcome every adversity; his continual endeavor to acquire knowledge. In arriving in Illinois this rugged youth found opportunity; made use of it; applied himself to the tasks, great or small, that came his way. He had traveled a rough path. He knew the burdens and hardships of life. He knew his fellowman better perhaps than any man in his time. He understood the viewpoint of the average citizen—that citizen upon whom government must depend. He solved problems of his own. He had helped in solving problems of the family. He was instrumental in solving the problems of the community in which he lived. He was a factor in all that was for the welfare of that

community. In time he took his part as a legislator in Illinois in solving the problems of the state. He knew the human weakness and the human strength and he capitalized each. He had a vision of the future beyond belief. Taking part in the early legislative history of Illinois, it soon became apparent that there was a vital problem of the nation that must sooner or later be solved.—lest the nation "perish from the earth."

We of the present day cannot measure the man without having in mind the surroundings and circumstances of the years in which he lived. The slave question involved the very vitals of government. Lincoln in early manhood little realized that this, the greatest problem that had ever confronted the government, would largely fall to his lot for solution. A quarter of a century before the civil war, states and communities were torn with discussions. In the neighboring county of Madison, Elijah Lovejoy became the victim of a mob aroused to murderous frenzy, because of his publication of articles condemning slavery. There were trying times from then until Lincoln's elevation to the executive head of the nation. No executive was ever confronted with a greater or more far-reaching task. Of the men America has produced, it has been conceded by historians that Lincoln was the best prepared and best fitted to save the union. He had never won without effort. He had the training that comes from defeat. He had the courage that comes from the knowledge of right. He had the in-born faith that this nation should not perish. Without learning in the schools, he had acquired an intellectual development that made him master of that which he undertook. Financially poor, he was mentally and morally rich. Homely in appearance, there was beauty in his soul that reflected an indescribable influence upon those in his presence. He was not a literary genius, but he gave to the world expressions that have vitalized human endeavor and have instilled hope and energy into governments and peoples throughout the earth. If not an orator, he knew how to reach the people and to convince them of the sincerity of his purpose and the righteousness of his cause. His defeat by the brilliant Douglas was turned into more brilliant victory.

When he became President, those who stood high in the circles of government, those who possessed education and refinement, those who were skilled in finance and business affairs, looked upon him as commonplace. He gathered about him a cabinet of brilliant men, who, with few exceptions, felt far superior to this rugged character who came from the prairies of Illinois. Lincoln had made himself loved and honored in youth by his daily life, the humbleness of his character and the courage to defend and advocate the cause which he believed to be right. Later he had prepared by his untiring energy in seeking to make something of himself; by his successful efforts to become a lawyer; by his experience in the legislature; by his debates with Douglas; by his association with men such as Palmer of your own county. He knew men and he knew the members of his cabinet, and ere-long, by that ability, almost unbelievable, he brought to himself that respect which seemed almost impossible at the time. Throughout the struggle of the Civil war, no man of the ages stood for more criticism, carried more sorrow in his heart, gave more encouragement for faith in government, than did he.

We are here this day on sacred soil. You stand where once Lincoln stood, where he pronounced a message that honored this community. I have stood where Lincoln stood when at Gettysburg he delivered that immortal speech. What does it mean to us today? What lesson comes from his life? The greatest words, to my mind, that ever flowed from the lips of an American citizen conveying the greatest thought to guide the people of America were pronounced in his Gettysburg oration. We are living in modern times. We do not have the surroundings or perhaps the opportunities of the time of Lincoln but there is yet much to do and will be until time shall be no more. It is to the glory of Illinois and to its citizenship that its people can gather in these honored places throughout Illinois where Lincoln spoke, and pay tribute to his memory. It is said that the spoken word continues throughout the ages if there were but the means to hear it. If our ears today could be so attuned to hear the words, the voice, the expression, the earnestness of Lincoln—it would renew our faith in our nation. We would the more loyally consecrate our lives that it might be true that this nation shall not perish from the earth. His name is honored and written high in every civilized nation on the face of the earth. Illinois should and must lead the way. These exercises and similar ones will be vain, however, if they do not bring to every heart from childhood to age the pride of being an American citizen and renewed and unswerving devotion to our constitution and laws. This nation was worthy of all the efforts of Lincoln worthy of his martyrdom; worthy of the sacrifice of the men who went down to the valley of death that it might live, worthy of the tears and prayers of American womanhood. Then, with renewed faith and earnest and sincere resolve, let us so live and so encourage others to live, that the spirit of Abraham Lincoln shall animate "That Government of the People, be to the American people the insur- for the People and by the People shall not Perish from the Earth."

Program of the Pageant

We are pleased to present below the program of the pageant.

PROLOGUE

The arrival of MISS MACOUPIN COUNTY attended by a Princess from each township.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME

THE ARRIVAL OF MISS COLUMBIA AND HER FORTY EIGHT STATES
Miss Macoupin and Miss Columbia escorted by their attendants proceed to the Court of Honor and Review the Pageant.

INTERLUDE ONE

PROPHECY OF FATHER TIME

EPISODE ONE

THE DAWN OF CREATION
COMING OF THE INDIAN

INTERLUDE TWO

THE PROPHET

EPISODE TWO

THE COMING OF THE WHITE MAN

INTERLUDE THREE

THE PROPHET

EPISODE THREE

THE CONQUERING OF THE WILDERNESS

INTERLUDE FOUR

THE PROPHET

EPISODE FOUR

THE FIRST CHURCH
THE FIRST SCHOOL

MACOUPIN COUNTY ORGANIZED

INTERLUDE FIVE

THE PROPHET

EPISODE FIVE

THE FIRST WEDDING

INTERLUDE SIX

THE PROPHET

EPISODE SIX

THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY

A NOBLE DEFENSE OF A DOWNTRODDEN RACE
THE GREAT EMANCIPATOR

PART TWO

INTERLUDE SEVEN

THE PROPHET

EPISODE SEVEN

AMERICA—THE MASQUE OF THE NATIONS
TABLEAU—THE SPIRIT OF MACOUPIN

GRAND FINALE

THE END

Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock, coronation of Miss Macoupin, Queen of the Pageant, at the north entrance of the court house.

Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock, Gigantic Parade of Progress, Floats, Bands, Organizations, Queen and Attendants.

Thursday, Home-Coming Day, Old Timers' Day, and other special features.

A band will furnish music each day.

Note—Remember that the Pageant will be the closing great spectacle of each day—every evening at the fair grounds at 8 o'clock.

PROGRAM OF EXERCISES

for unveiling tablet marking the place
where Abraham Lincoln spoke in Car-
linville. To be held Tuesday afternoon,
August 6, 1929.

1:15 Band Concert

2:00 Prayer

Vocal Music

Address: "Lincoln's Speech in
Carlinville in 1858", by Paul M.
Angle, Springfield, Secretary
the Abraham Lincoln Associa-
tion.

Music by Band

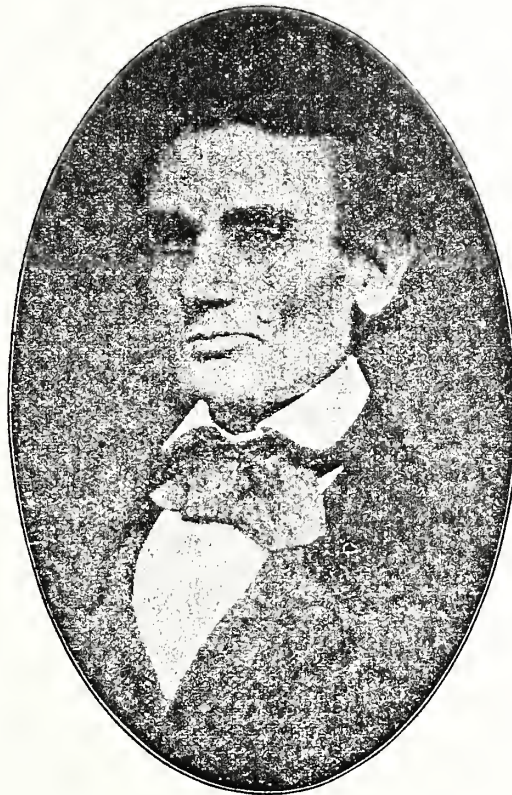
Unveiling Tablet

Music by Band

Oration: "Abraham Lincoln", by
Thomas Williamson, of Ed-
wardsville.

Vocal Music

Dismissal



ABRAHAM LINCOLN

who spoke in Carlinville August 31, 1858

The above picture was taken in 1857. The cut is loaned to us by Herbert Wells Fay, custodian of the Lincoln tomb.

In 1857 Mr. Lincoln visited the Alschuler studio at Urbana. Lincoln had on a linen duster, which the artist thought would not look well in the picture, and Alschuler suggested they exchange coats. The artist was much the smaller of the two. It is evident from the picture that the coat was far too small.

Plans are completed for the unveiling of a Lincoln Memorial Tablet in Carlinville. On August the thirty-first, eighteen hundred and fifty-eight, Abraham Lincoln made a speech in the county seat of Macoupin county. He was not very well known at that time, and for the reason also, perhaps, that the principles he espoused were not very popular in this section, he was greeted only by a very small audience. It is said to be the fact that less than a hundred people assembled to hear the man who, two years later, was elected President of the United States.

A platform was built for him on the east side of a vacant lot, where the Carlinville Methodist church now stands. From those who were present on that occasion, and from the files of the newspapers, the details and facts of that meeting have been learned. On that occasion Mr. Lincoln gave expression to principles of which he became the outstanding champion, and upon which he was elected President.

It is eminently right and proper that the spot where such a man appeared and spoke such prophetic words, should be suitably marked in an enduring way.

The Macoupin County Centennial Executive Committee, when they set about the task of presenting a pageant in celebration of the hundredth anniversary of Macoupin county and Carlinville, should, at the same time, as a part of the great history-making event, unveil and dedicate a suitable marker at the place where Mr. Lincoln spoke. Accordingly, the Executive Committee, through its officers and general committee, appointed a special committee and directed the members to arrange for a tablet and a celebration. That committee, together with a number of sub-committees, are all busily at work. An appropriate bronze tablet, sixteen by twenty inches in size, has been ordered and will be delivered to H. H. Lattner, of the Carlinville Monument Works, by August the first. A huge boulder weighing several tons, which was excavated from the hill-side in the construction of the Bunker Hill hard road, has been transported to Carlinville and deposited near the place where it will permanently rest. A concrete foundation is being built, upon which the stone will be placed. On the north side of this huge stone will be attached the tablet. The whole will be finished and ready for unveiling on the sixth day of August.

On that day, at two o'clock in the afternoon, appropriate exercises will be held around and in close proximity to the stone, the unveiling of which will be the climax of the occasion. There will be music by a band, vocal music, and an address by Paul M. Angle, the secretary of the Abraham Lincoln Association, and this will be followed by the oration of the day, to be delivered by the Honorable Thomas Williamson, formerly of Macoupin county, but now of Edwardsville. Mr. Angle is a profound student of Abraham Lincoln, and what he will have to say on that occasion will be historical and of very great value, in as much as it will tell the exact history of Mr. Lincoln's appearance in Carlinville in eighteen hundred and fifty-eight, and the facts surrounding it. It will be the utterance of one able to write the history of the Great Emancipator, because of his long and intimate study of that man's life and career.

Mr. Williamson is regarded as one of the most eloquent speakers in the state, and coming back to his old county where he spent his boyhood days and entered upon his professional career, we can all look forward with pleasant anticipation to one of the greatest efforts of his life.

The celebration on August sixth, in Carlinville, is in commemoration of the only public speech Abraham Lincoln ever made in Macoupin county. He happened to select the county seat as the place where he would speak: he might have designated any one of the other equally large cities in the county. So, quite appropriately, it becomes a county affair. Every one in the county is invited to attend. Macoupin county, in this case, is only doing what has been done already by the people in nearly every other city where Abraham Lincoln made a political speech in Illinois. Monuments have been erected and tablets have been inscribed. Macoupin county is joining them in this movement to permanently mark the place where the great Lincoln once spoke.

To the exercises marking the dedication of the tablet, the committees having this affair in hand, through the press of the county, and by personal and written appeal, extend a cordial invitation to every one to attend.

Pageant a Stupendous Production

Macoupin county's celebration of its hundredth birthday is a huge success. There is no doubt about it. The thousands who participated in the first day's exercises attest it. The climax of all is the pageant. The first presentation of it was Tuesday night. It is under the direction and charge of the John B. Rogers Company, represented by John W. Judd and Gregory Mooney, the director and the assistant director of the production. Tuesday night's presentation was well nigh perfect. It began on time, it ended on time. "It was as if the performers had been trained every night for two weeks", said one enthusiastic spectator. There are three or four hundred participants in the historical pageant. They come from the various sections of the county. Groups portray historical incidents in connection with the development of this county. It is not only well done, it is splendidly done. In the short time allowed us, we can not mention the names of the performers nor adequately describe the event, but unhesitatingly say to the readers of this newspaper that the pageant is a stupendous production, one of the most successfully conducted affairs of the kind it has ever been our privilege to see, and we urge everybody to witness this beautiful presentation of the development of this western country, of which Macoupin county is a part. It will continue Wednesday night and Thursday night. There is a big seating capacity, but we will hazard the guess that there will be many who will be unable to find seats. But fortunately there is an abundance of standing room and that great open air presentment can be seen from afar off.

The county celebration began on Tuesday morning. The band concert was furnished by the Virden band in the public square from 10:00 to 12:00. There was a surprisingly large number of people in town. The city never looked more beautiful. The glorious rain which fell Monday night was just what was desired and added greatly to the success of the whole undertaking. The city was beautifully decorated and everywhere there was a spirit of co-operation and a spirit of helpfulness, which added much to the complete success of the affair.

Unveiling the Lincoln Tablet.

Appropriately, "pageant week" was formally opened with an impressive service in the Methodist church yard where the beautiful tablet marking the place where Abraham Lincoln spoke in Carlinville in 1858, was unveiled. A special committee was in charge of that undertaking. It was held at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. It was hoped by the special committee that 500 would be present. Seats were provided for that number. Not less than fifteen hundred witnessed the impressive services. At 1:15 the Virden band furnished a concert. At 2 o'clock the meeting was called to order by J. E. McClure chairman of the sub-committee having the unveiling exercises in charge, called the meeting to order. Dr. Wm. M. Hudson, president of Blackburn college, delivered the invocation. A male quartette, composed of W. A. Challacombe, P. O. Landon, L. E. Ross and Otis J. Vaughan, furnished three selections which were splendidly given and highly appreciated.

Paul M. Angle, secretary of the Abraham Lincoln association of Springfield was the first speaker. He is a profound student of the history of Abraham Lincoln. It was fortunate indeed that the committee was able to secure Mr. Angle as one of the speakers for the unveiling exercises and to have him tell the actual historical story of the appearance of Mr. Lincoln in Carlinville in 1858, and of the full political significance of that visit, and that speech. Mr. Angle pleased the audience very much. He does

not make many public speeches, is a very modest man, and so we have not been able to secure from him the full text of the very splendid address he delivered in Carlinville on Tuesday.

However, we have a synopsis of what he said, and it gives an idea of the very superior quality of the speech made. The time was so short between the unveiling exercises and the hour of going to press that we are not undertaking at this time to give the synopsis of what Mr. Angle said, nor to print the oration delivered by Thomas Williamson. We are reserving both of these for publication in the next issue of The Democrat. After a selection by the band the tablet was unveiled.

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an impressive moment when Mr. Rinaker announced that the tablet would be unveiled by the men and women who had heard Lincoln speak in Carlinville in 1858. He in turn then presented the special guests of honor who occupied conspicuous positions on

the platform and each of whom smilingly bowed acknowledgement to the plaudits of the big audience. These are the ones who were presented by Mr. Rinaker and who unveiled the tablet: Peter Lorenz, Nicholas Schaeffer, Charles Neely, Mrs. M. J. Cohlepp, Mrs. Amanda Adams and Mrs. Mary Works. Mrs. Millie Rodgers and Thomas Richardson, both of Carlinville, two others who heard Mr. Lincoln speak in this city, were unable, on account of illness, to be present. John McWain was another present but arrived too late to have a part in the ceremony. Wm. H. Stoddard knows much of Lincoln's visit to Carlinville, but was not present at the meeting in 1858.

A profound silence fell upon the big audience as the venerable residents walked slowly from the platform to the tablet, and at the given moment lifted the flag that concealed it from the public view. There was a burst of applause, the click of many cameras, and the band called the whole assemblage to its feet by playing the national anthem while the people stood with uncovered heads. It was a scene which required only a few minutes but it is one that will linger long in the memory of those who witnessed it. The combined ages of those who actually raised the flag at the unveiling is 498 years.

Mr. Rinaker concluded the unveiling ceremony by reading impressively the inscription upon the bronze tablet which is in these words:

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The exercises then concluded and the huge audience went direct to the court house yard for the interesting exercises incident to the coronation of the queen of the pageant.

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Lincoln tablet was composed of the following: J. E. McClure, Judge J. B. Vaughn, Walter H. Dey, Don M. Peebles, George C. Schoenherr; a number of sub-committees were appointed and all functioned perfectly, resulting in a very successful affair. Chairmen of sub-committees deserving of special mention were E. R. Turnbull, W. P. Dunn, W. A' Challacombe, T. K. Rinker and H. M. Lattner.

Miss Stubblefield Crowned Queen of the Pageant.

In the unavoidable absence of the president of the Chamber of Commerce, J. E. McClure was requested to preside during the exercises, which were held Tuesday afternoon at the north side of the court house. After a few preliminary remarks explaining the purpose of that gathering he introduced Mayor P. O. Landon, of Carlinville, who delivered an address of welcome which breathed the spirit of hospitality, and in which he extended a genuine and real welcome of all the people to the county seat of Macoupin county.

S. P. Preston, of the Gillespie News, was then presented to the audience and he spoke in response to Mayor Landon's address. Mr. Preston's effort was in line with his usual clever utterances on such occasions. He is a booster for Macoupin county and his response on this occasion emphasized his genuine feeling with reference to the pageant and the co-operative spirit manifested toward it in all parts of the county.

It was with difficulty that the court house yard was sufficiently cleared so that the impressive arrival of Queen Macoupin accompanied by the princesses, and her subsequent crowning, could be properly accomplished. Miss Columbia, the part taken by Miss Charlotte Jeanes, of Staunton, appeared from the north entrance of the court house and took her station about midway down the steps. She was accompanied by little Caroline Paul, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Paul, of this city. She carried the crown of roses for the queen. Presently from the north entrance to the court house yard amidst the applause of the huge audience, came Miss Mae Stubblefield, daughter of Sheriff and Mrs. E. M. Stubblefield. She was attended by two flower girls, Miss Dorothy Hardy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Hardie, and Miss Virginia Moise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Moise. Miss Stubblefield was beautifully attired and knelt at the feet of Miss Columbia and then the crown was placed upon her head. The band played. The audience applauded, the queen and her retinue then proceeded to the east side of the court house lawn where a huge reception was tendered her by the Carlinville Woman's club.

As we go to press the parade is in progress. There are bands, many decorated automobiles, numerous floats all in all a most beautiful sight and a very great success.

LINCOLN MARKER UNVEILING OPENS BIG CENTENNIAL

**Large Crowd Attends Ceremony
—Program Continues Today
With Coronation of Queen and
Pageant — Mammoth Parade
of Floats and Several Bands
Tomorrow.**

Tuesday afternoon the exercises at the unveiling of the Lincoln Tablet were held. A large crowd was present and the program was carried out as was announced in the Enquirer, Monday.

J. E. McClure, chairman of the Committee on Unveiling the Tablet, presided. Seated on the platform besides the speakers and members of the committee were Mrs. Mary Works, Mrs. J. M. Cohlepp, Nick Schaefer, Charles Neeley, Mrs. Amanda Adams, and Peter Lorenz, who heard Lincoln speak at Carlinville. Besides these were W. H. Stoddard, Mrs. Herdman and John McWain. Two others were mentioned who could not be present—T. B. Richardson and Mrs. Millie Seaman Rodgers.

T. K. Rinaker, grandson of the late John I. Rinaker, was called on to preside at the unveiling exercises and after a few remarks he escorted those who heard Lincoln to the tablet and these old people unveiled the monument, after which pictures were taken and the band played "The Star Spangled Banner."

The tablet reads:

Abraham Lincoln spoke here on August 31, 1858, in the course of his famous campaign against Stephen A. Douglas for the United States senatorship.

The program at the platform was then resumed. The large audience present was much greater than had been anticipated. On account of the muddy condition of the roads, many from the west part of the county could not get to Carlinville.

The relics store on the west side of the square, has been visited by hundreds of people and it will be open Wednesday and Thursday.

Great preparations are being made for the big parade tomorrow, Wednesday morning, at 10 o'clock and all the final touches are being put on the pageant which will be given at the fairgrounds tonight.

At 4 o'clock this afternoon the exercises crowning the queen will be held in front of the courthouse.

The Parade.

We have been trying to get as much as we could about the formation of the parade tomorrow but the plans have not yet been definitely worked out. The following is a tentative plan but it may be changed.

Parade to form on East First North street at 9:30 a. m. and the line of march will be west to Charles street; south to East Main street; west to square; to the north on square; to West Main street; west to Chicago & Alton depot, and counter march back on West Main street to square; then to south side square to East Main street; east to High street; south to First South; west to South Broad; on to the square; around east and circle square.

We have been unable to get the number of floats and the cars who will take part in the parade, but in all probability, the procession will be headed by state motor policemen and city police; city officers in autos; and these will be followed by many decorated automobiles and floats, and among them will be Starr Bros., H. A. Steinmeyer, Standard Oil Co., Diamond Kerosene Co., P. E. O., B. P. O. Elks, Lutheran church, Knights of Columbus, Episcopal church, Rotary Club, Queen's float, floats for the attendants for queen, St. Mary's church, Evangelical church, M. E. church, Blackburn College, Woman's Club, Ross Clothing Store, and a number of other floats the names of which we have been unable so far to obtain. Among the bands that will be here is that of the State Hospital at Jacksonville, the High School band, Beardstown high school band, Gillespie high school band, Fiorentini's band, and the Girard band. The big band from Virden is here today and there may be other bands we have not listed.

The Pageant.

The pageant will be held at the fair grounds this evening and will be repeated every night through Thursday. The exercises will commence at 8 o'clock.

Enquirer
Carlinville, Ill.
8-7-29

Pageant a Stupendous Production

Carlinville Democrat 8-7-29

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LINCOLN APPEARED IN CHANCERY SUIT

Came to Carlville in 1855 In Railroad Case.

Was Member of Firm of Underwood &
Lincoln—Entry Found in Files in
Lincoln's Own Handwriting.

Carlville Democrat 8-24-29

The Centennial celebration held in Carlville last week and the unveiling of a tablet to the memory of Abraham Lincoln, revived the question asked many times in the past as to whether or not Lincoln had ever had a case in the Macoupin county circuit court. The question has been settled. Lincoln did have a case in our circuit court and that fact was established last week by Paul M. Angle, of Springfield.

Mr. Angle is secretary of the Abraham Lincoln association and when he came to this city last week to attend the unveiling and at which time he spoke, he went to the court house to investigate and look into the files. There with the assistance of Circuit Clerk Blauer and Deputy Clerk Milton Mahan, Mr. Angle found the evidence which established the fact beyond doubt that Lincoln had a case in the circuit court here.

The files disclosed the fact that the case in which Lincoln appeared was in chancery and was over a bill asking for an accounting and receivership involving the Ohio & Mississippi railroad.

In the files was a printed book of many pages, reciting the legal facts in part, and the first page of it reads as follows:

"St. Clair county circuit court, in chancery; Henry A. Clark and James L. D. Morrison, complainants versus Daniel D. Page, Henry D. Bacon et al. and the Ohio & Mississippi railroad, defendants; bill for relief and account and for a receiver, etc. Filed August 8, 1855. Bretton A. Hill solicitor for complainants, Lyman Trumbull and Gustavus P. Koerner, of counsel."

The presiding judge in the above proceeding was Hon. Sidney B. Beebe, of St. Clair county. There are a large number of documents in the files and they are of course all written in long-hand and easily read and splendidly preserved.

After a time it appears that the case came to Macoupin county on a change of venue and it was then that Lincoln's name became connected with the suit.

Under date of September 6 1855, the following order was filed in the case:

"Henry A. Clark and others versus Daniel D. Page and others."

"And now on this day come the said complainants, by Trumbull & Bacon, their solicitors, and move the court to judge of the sufficiency of the plea heretofore filed by the defendants, Bacon & Page, to the jurisdiction of the court, whereupon the said plea is set down for hearing and the said defendants, Bacon & Page, appearing by Underwood & Lincoln, their solicitors, and the court, after hearing arguments and being fully advised of and concerning the premises, overrules said plea, and adjudge it to be insufficient. Whereupon the defendants, Henry D. Bacon and Joshua H. Alexander, filed this their joint and several answers to said bill and said complainants pray process as against the defendants, who have not heretofore appeared; and enter their motion for the appointment of a receiver and injunction; due notice of the intention of making said motion having been given to all of the parties defendant."

On the back of the single sheet of paper upon which the above motion was written, was the following in the handwriting of Abraham Lincoln:

"And now again come the complainants, and on their motion the cause is continued for service of process upon such of the defendants as have not appeared herein; and leave is also given them to amend their bill herein; and also come the defendants, Bacon and Alexander and on their motion leave is given them to amend their answer herein."

As soon as Mr. Angle saw the writing he said: "That's it. That is Lincoln's writing." Right under the paragraph written by Mr. Lincoln, the presiding judge, D. M. Woodson, made the following order: "Record the above also."

The date this instrument was filed was September 7, 1855. This law suit was tried in the old court house that stood in the center of the public square, and was more than ten years before the present court house was started.

So far as is known this is the first time that anything really authentic has appeared in print concerning Lincoln and this law suit.

Judge D. M. Woodson mentioned above was presiding over the first judicial district of Illinois as it was

at that time. This was changed many years ago and is now the seventh judicial district. It will be 74 years next September since this suit was in court in Carlville.

What the Speakers Said at the Unveiling of the Lincoln Tablet in Carlinville on August Sixth.

Carlinville Democrat Aug. 7-14-24

On account of the shortness of time, we were unable to give our readers in The Democrat of last week, an adequate idea of the two very splendid addresses delivered on the occasion of the unveiling of the Lincoln tablet. We are pleased indeed to be able in this issue to print a synopsis of what Mr. Paul M. Angle said of the significance of the appearance of Abraham Lincoln in Carlinville in 1858, and of the far-reaching effect of the address he delivered on that occasion. Mr. Angle said in part:

When the year 1858 opened Abraham Lincoln was an able, honest small-town lawyer. He was also a politician of some repute, having gained prominence by his attacks upon the policy of Stephen A. Douglas in 1854. Though this prominence had made him a contender for the senatorship in 1855, and for the Republican nomination for vice-president the following year, he still occupied a minor position in comparison with Stephen A. Douglas. Douglas was easily the most prominent member of the U. S. senate. Moreover, he was the idol of a formidable section of the Democratic party, and most men expected to see him that party's candidate for the presidency in 1860.

Yet there was a weak spot in Douglas' position. He must stand, for re-

election in 1858, and Abraham Lincoln stood in his way. After several preliminary conflicts, an arrangement was made by the two candidates for a series of joint debates, one to be held in each congressional district in the state. These debates, on which the attention of the entire nation focused, have obscured the fact that so far as time was concerned—and perhaps importance too—there was a more vital side of the campaign. Lincoln and Douglas spoke only seven times in joint debate, but for more than two and a half months each addressed audiences almost daily.

Thus it was that Lincoln came to Carlinville on August 31, 1858. Two weeks before, on the 12th, he had opened his campaign at Beardstown, and since then he had spoken almost daily to audiences of his own, and had met Douglas at Ottawa and at Freeport. All of his addresses had been either in the northern or north-central part of the state, where Douglas had taunted him with predictions of what would happen when he started to preach "Black Republicanism" farther south.

Lincoln arrived in Carlinville on the morning of Tuesday, August 31, "on the down train." He was quietly escorted to the American House. Reading between the lines of the contemporary report in your own Carlinville Democrat one can readily guess the reason—there was not enough enthusiasm for Lincoln and the policies he

was advocating to make a demonstration possible. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon he spoke to a gathering which The Democrat optimistically estimated at 1,000, but which probably totaled only a fraction of that number.

One can readily see from what Lincoln said on that occasion, the effect of Douglas' taunts. Lincoln limited his remarks to an explanation of his now famous statement that a house divided against itself cannot stand, to a demonstration of his own fidelity to the Whig party, and to a disavowal of his belief in the amalgamation of the white and black races. Macoupin county was a conservative stronghold, with many ties holding it to the south. Good politician that he was, Lincoln, without in any sense surrendering his principles, was wisely emphasizing those he knew to be most acceptable in the locality. The Democrat called it "an honest, logical and telling speech," and so it was, and a diplomatic one as well.

The sequel is well known. Two months longer Lincoln and Douglas traveled over Illinois, speaking almost daily. On the second of November their audience cast their verdict. Lincoln received the greater number of votes, but, because of a somewhat antiquated apportionment law, it was evident that Douglas would be elected when the legislature convened.

Yet, in a larger sense, Lincoln was the victor. His name was known throughout the nation, and in the west he was easily the foremost man of his party. When, two years later, the political situation dictated the election of a westerner as the Republican nominee, Lincoln was the natural choice. It would be too much to say that the contest with Douglas made Lincoln president, but it is certainly true that without it he could not have attained that office. Car-

linville and Macoupin county may take a just pride in having had a part in that contest.

We are happy also to reproduce herewith the oration delivered by Hon. Thomas Williamson, of Edwardsville, for many years a resident of Macoupin county. His subject was: "This Nation Shall not Perish." Mr. Williamson said:

The people of Macoupin county, including all who have at some time in life been residents of the county, will long treasure the three days' event, which the program of the afternoon initiates. Those who have planned and given of their time, talent and substance to make this event one to be long remembered in the history of Macoupin county, are to be congratulated and complimented not only for their contribution, but for their thoughtfulness in providing opportunity for the people to join in a celebration planned and enacted to refresh memories not only of those who have the pleasure of being present, but of those who once were residents of the county, but now in distant places, whose thoughts in these three days will turn to the cherished memories of their associations in Macoupin county.

To me has been assigned the appreciated honor of bringing to you a brief word, in some measure a tribute to the memory of the most honored and distinguished man in Illinois—Abraham Lincoln. Those who are interested in the lives of men, whose names have shown brilliant on the pages of history, are familiar with the life of Lincoln and his contribution not only to Illinois and the nation, but to the principles of organized government in which the people are the ruling power and control its destiny. In re-

cent years, the life of no human being has perhaps been given more attention, until those, who care to know, have within their own knowledge a conception of the life of Lincoln not within my power to express or describe.

America, young as a nation, cannot go back across remote centuries to pay tribute to the memory of its heroic dead as may be done in the older nations. As centuries pass, the names of but few men live in memory. The American people are yet too close to the life of this man to appreciate fully his contribution to the vital principles upon which our nation's endurance depends. Each passing year adds to the glory of the name. Each passing year to the knowledge and world admiration of this wondrous character. It is indeed remarkable that vigilant search from year to year reveals incidents in his life that adds to its beauty and emphasizes the fact that in the age in which he lived, no man more truly represented or presented the spirit that is essential and continues to be essential for the survival of our government. The thought has been expressed, that in the passing of the ages, in the rise and fall of government among men, the plan of the Great Architect of the universe was being executed when, through the human agency of our forefathers, a new form of government was established on American soil. How prophetic it must seem and how prophetic it must continue to be that after the great struggle between the "Blue" and the "Gray," there should be pronounced on the battle-torn field of Gettysburg, in the presence of the white markers of thousands of the unknown heroic dead, the thrilling phrase that shall live as long as men unite to maintain the principles of freedom—"Government of the People, for the People and by the People shall not Perish from the Earth." To my mind, this wonderful thought might be inscribed today as the guide, as the inspiration, as the purpose of the American people. "Shall this government perish?" is today a question full of vitality, and one answer may be—it will not perish if we keep close to the life of Lincoln and profit by his example.

From humble birth to the tragedy of a martyr's death, no life since that of the Carpenter of Bethlehem has been more productive of uplifting thoughts nor more inspiring to human hope and of good will among men. Born in the state of Kentucky when the principles of this new government were not yet firmly established, he knew and his family knew the pangs of poverty; where hardships that made for the beginning of sturdy manhood were on every hand; where there was little opportunity. Then there came that thought so typical in American life—opportunity may be found further on. We find the young Lincoln as the years passed by meeting with and overcoming adversity. The greatest preparation for his future was his willingness to work; his determination to overcome every adversity; his continual endeavor to acquire knowledge. In arriving in Illinois this rugged youth found opportunity; made use of it; applied himself to the tasks, great or small, that came his way. He had traveled a rough path. He knew the burdens and hardships of life. He knew his fellowman better perhaps than any man in his time.

He understood the viewpoint of the average citizen—that citizen upon whom government must depend. He solved problems of his own. He had helped in solving problems of the family. He was instrumental in solving the problems of the community in which he lived. He was a factor in all that was for the welfare of that community. In time he took his part as a legislator in Illinois in solving the problems of the state. He knew the human weakness and the human strength and he capitalized each. He had a vision of the future beyond belief. Taking part in the early legislative history of Illinois, it soon became apparent that there was a vital problem of the nation that must sooner or later be solved,—lest the nation "perish from the earth."

We of the present day cannot measure the man without having in mind the surroundings and circumstances of the years in which he lived. The slave question involved the very vitals of government. Lincoln in early manhood little realized that this, the greatest problem that had ever confronted the government, would largely fall to his lot for solution. A quarter of a century before the civil war, states and communities were torn with discussions. In the neighboring county of Madison, Elijah Lovejoy became the victim of a mob aroused to murderous frenzy, because of his publication of articles condemning slavery. There were trying times from then until Lincoln's elevation to the executive head of the nation. No executive was ever confronted with a greater or more far-reaching task. Of the men America has produced, it has been conceded by historians that

Lincoln was the best prepared and best fitted to save the union. He had never won without effort. He had the training that comes from defeat. He had the courage that comes from the knowledge of right. He had the in-born faith that this nation should not perish. Without learning in the schools, he had acquired an intellectual development that made him master of that which he undertook. Financially poor, he was mentally and morally rich. Homely in appearance, there was beauty in his soul that reflected an indescribable influence upon those in his presence. He was not a literary genius, but he gave to the world expressions that have vitalized human endeavor and have instilled hope and energy into governments and peoples throughout the earth. If not an orator, he knew how to reach the people and to convince them of the sincerity of his purpose and the righteousness of his cause. His defeat by the brilliant Douglas was turned into more brilliant victory.

When he became President, those who stood high in the circles of government, those who possessed education and refinement, those who were skilled in finance and business affairs, looked upon him as commonplace. He gathered about him a cabinet of brilliant men, who, with few exceptions, felt far superior to this rugged character who came from the prairies of Illinois. Lincoln had made himself loved and honored in youth by his daily life, the humbleness of his character and the courage to defend and advocate the cause which he believed to be right. Later he had prepared by his untiring energy in seeking to make something of himself; by his successful efforts to become a lawyer; by his experience in the legislature; by his debates with Douglas; by

his association with men such as Palmer of your own county. He knew men and he knew the members of his cabinet, and ere-long, by that ability, almost unbelievable, he brought to himself that respect which seemed almost impossible at the time. Throughout the struggle of the Civil war, no man of the ages stood for more criticism, carried more sorrow in his heart, gave more encouragement for faith in government, than did he.

We are here this day on sacred soil. You stand where once Lincoln stood, where he pronounced a message that honored this community. I have stood where Lincoln stood when at Gettysburg he delivered that immortal speech. What does it mean to us today? What lesson comes from his life? The greatest words, to my mind, that ever flowed from the lips of an American citizen conveying the greatest thought to guide the people of America were pronounced in his Gettysburg oration. We are living in modern times. We do not have the surroundings or perhaps the opportunities of the time of Lincoln but there is yet much to do and will be until time shall be no more. It is to the glory of Illinois and to its citizenship that its people can gather in these honored places throughout Illinois where Lincoln spoke, and pay tribute to his memory. It is said that the spoken word continues throughout the ages if there were but the means to hear it. If our ears today could be so attuned to hear the words, the voice, the expression, the earnestness of Lincoln—it would renew our faith in our nation. We would the more lovably consecrate our lives that it might be true that this nation shall not perish from the earth. His name is honored and written high in every civilized nation on the face of the earth. Illinois should and must lead the way. These exercises and similar ones will be vain, however if they do not bring to every heart from childhood to age the pride of being an American citizen and renewed and unswerving devotion to our constitution and laws. This nation was worthy of all the efforts of Lincoln worthy of his martyrdom; worthy of the sacrifice of the men who went down to the valley of death that it might live—worthy of the tears and prayers of American womanhood. Then, with renewed faith and earnest and sincere resolve, let us so live and so encourage others to live, that the spirit of Abraham Lincoln shall be to the American people the insurance "That Government of the People, for the People and by the People shall not Perish from the Earth."

Lincoln Questionnaire

Name of town Carlinville County Macoupin State Illinois

Date or dates when Lincoln spoke there Aug 31 1858

Has a marker or monument ever been erected to commemorate his address? yes

If so, when was it dedicated? Aug 1929

Is any literature referring to it, or a photograph of it available? yes

Will send picture under separate cover

Any further information such as donor, inscription on tablet, or other data of

interest would be appreciated. The monument was

given by the people of Carlinville and
dedicated the week of 100th anniversary

of Macoupin County. Would love to have
"Line old Love" for Carlinville Public Library
Carlinville, Ill. ✓

Mrs E.A. Chatham Sec.
511 East Second South
Carlinville Ill.

Carlinville, Ill.

Spoke In Carlinville.

During the 1858 senatorial campaign, Lincoln spoke in Carlinville Aug. 31. He addressed a crowd of nearly a thousand citizens at Morton's Grove in the afternoon, and was followed by John M. Palmer.

*See St. Journal
6/30/36*

Dean Pratt Reports Records of Abraham Lincoln's Visit In Carlinville During Quarrel with Douglas in 50's

Old newspaper files and letters reveal that Abraham Lincoln visited Carlinville several times during the fifties. On November 4, 1854, Lincoln who had returned to politics as a stump speaker, wrote to Richard Yates, future governor of Illinois: "I expect to be back in time to speak at Carlinville on Saturday, if thought expedient."

The next September he appeared in Carlinville as an attorney of the Ohio & Mississippi railroad in a chancery suit over a bill asking for an accounting and receivership. The case had come to Macoupin County on a change of venue from St. Clair County, and it was then that Lincoln and Wm. H. Underwood of Belleville, became connected with the suit. The case was tried before Judge Woodson in the two story brick house in the center of the town

square. Six months later Lincoln wrote to Lieutenant-Governor Koerner, one of the opposing attorneys: "I should have asked you on what terms you settled your fee in the case in connection with which we met at Carlinville last fall."

Lincoln visited in Carlinville on the fourth of August, 1858, four days after the agreement for the seven joint debates with Stephen A. Douglas. He made an announcement of his intention to speak in the Macoupin capital. However, the Carlinville Free Democrat of November 12, 1858, proclaimed a grand mass meeting of the Freemen of Macoupin. "The Hon. Abraham Lincoln, Senator Lyman Trumbull, will address the people upon the issue involved in the present canvass."

Starting at Beardstown on August

12th, Lincoln spoke daily to crowds in central and northern Illinois with Democrats taunting him about what would happen when he began to preach "Black Republicanism" further south. Macoupin county having many ties with the South was a conservative stronghold.

Lincoln arrived the morning of August 21st "on the down train" and was quietly escorted to the American House by some of the few loyal Republicans. At 3 p. m. he delivered what the local newspapers described as "an honest, logical and telling speech" to about 400 persons assembled at Morton's Grove.

He denied any idea of interfering with slavery where it lawfully existed, but denounced the attempt to make it

(Continued on page 2 column 4)

lawful everywhere through the Nebraska bill and the Dred Scott decision. He asked if Douglas believed the "Good Man" uttered a falsehood when he said, 'a house divided against itself cannot stand.' Does he believe this thing will always stand as it now is—neither expand or diminish?" Lincoln demonstrated his fidelity to the Whig party and disavowed any belief in the amalgamation of the white and black races.

Douglas came to Carlinville and answered Lincoln on the eighth of September before a crowd of 8,000 people. The procession, headed by Yager's band of Alton, marched to a grove near the present Community High School building. A month later a large delegation of Carlinville Democrats went to Alton to hear the last Lincoln-Douglas debate.

In 1859 Lincoln worked hard for the election to congress of John M. Palmer of Carlinville. Later Mr. Palmer was a member of the convention that nominated Lincoln and during the Civil war received a commission as Major-General, signed by President Lincoln.

The Republican sentiment of Carlinville in 1859 favored Mr. Edward Bates of Missouri, for President; Lincoln was second choice. By March following Lincoln was locally considered the best representative of Republicanism. Warning to this subject the editor of

The Carlinville Democrat painted his true Lincoln: "Educated in the stern school of poverty and labor, scorning alike the maxims and habits of all classes of aristocratic pretenders—simple in his tastes and habits, a genuine Western man." This outburst of zeal was soon followed by his endorsement for president by the Republicans of Macoupin county.

While attending a service in the Presbyterian church in Springfield immediately following an election, Lincoln was carrying on a conversation over election returns. Oblivious to the period of silence in the service, he burst out, "Wait till we hear from Macoupin," and the whole audience laughed.

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